

The View

Madison Presbyterian Church
December 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
Merry Christmas!

That's very Victorian way of greeting the season, which is where most of our Christmas traditions come from. I like Victorian traditions. My decorations include lots of red plaid and pine garlands with red berries. I have some tiny tins from the Victorian Trading Company that aren't holding anything at all, they're just sitting out looking cute.



We've gotten so very used to our European-based traditions that other traditions can offend us because we think they're not about Jesus. For instance, the X in Merry Xmas. We can let ourselves get pretty het up over that! Important religious leaders like Franklin Graham do! "For us as Christians, [Christmas] is one of the most holy of the holidays, the birth of our savior Jesus Christ. And for people to take Christ out of Christmas. They're happy to say merry Xmas. Let's just take Jesus out. And really, I think, a war against the name of Jesus Christ. "What's with abbreviating Christ?!" "Don't take the Christ out of Christmas!" Oh Frank. They're not.

The 'X' comes from the Greek letter Chi, which is the first letter of the Greek word Christós (Greek: Χριστός, translit. Khristós, lit. "anointed, covered in oil"), which became Christ in English. The suffix -mas is from the Latin-derived Old English word for Mass. It was Constantine who started using the first two letters of the word Christ – the Chi and the Rho – on his banners. You can see in the illustration to the left the Chi and the Rho, and it probably looks familiar to you. Many denominations had that sign on Christ related items, particularly in the 1970s.

So that's the story. Don't be offended by the X. Nobody's trying to X you out. Instead, why don't you unfurl your own banner after the call of the King of Kings? His banner over us is love. And that's our charge and our duty and our privilege, to love God with all our heart and mind and soul, and to love our neighbor as X has loved us.

Christmas Blessings,

Pastor Karen

Pastor Karen Contact Information



My cell is 540-414-3193 Saturday through Thursday 9am-7pm.

My Sabbath is Friday. Emergencies only on Fridays, please.



EMERGENCIES call any time. PLEASE call or text directly if you or your loved one goes to the hospital, as soon as possible. Do not assume I know.



Office hours M, W, Th from 9 to Noon AND when you want to see me.

I am HAPPY to make afternoon, evening, or weekend appointments.

My time will flex to accommodate you.

If you want to drop by to see me instead of making an appointment, I will always be glad to see you. Just know you may have to wait if someone else has scheduled time.



Heidi Piper, Church Administrator

I am in the office 8:00am - 1:00pm Monday through Thursday. Please leave me a message on the phone or send an email if there's anything I can help with. If you have changes to your Address, Phone, or Email please send updated information to office@madisonpresbyterian.com.



*2023 and 2024 Flower Calendars
are posted in the Narthex.*

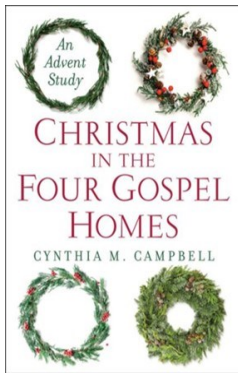
*Send flower dedications for the
bulletin to
office@madisonpresbyterian.com
or call the office at (540)948-6972.*



Madison Presbyterian Church

PIN: 22871 Presbytery: James (150298) Synod: Mid-Atlantic (150)

Go Deeper This Advent: Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes



- 4 Week Study Each Thursday in Advent beginning November 30
- Thursday 10:00am with Coffee and Snacks
- Thursday 6:00pm with Hot Cocoa, Tea, and cookies
- Fellowship Hall and Tack Room
- Books provided for all

“How might a house look for Christmas based on what each Gospel says about it? In Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes, beautiful illustrations from architect Kevin Burns reimagine each of the four Gospels as a house, which the church visits at Christmas. In each section, Cynthia M. Campbell reflects on the distinctive perspective of the birth of Jesus or the incarnation offered by each Gospel. Suitable for individual or group study, Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes creatively reimagines the season and inspires new and exciting reflection for Advent.”

To help us be ready with set up and book copies, If you would like to come, please let Pastor Karen know by texting or emailing her: pastorkaren@madisonpresbyterian.com or 540.414.3193.

Praying for Peace: Wednesday Evening Advent Prayer Group



Wednesday nights from 6:15-6:45pm prayers will be held in the sanctuary. We will be praying by candlelight using a Celtic tradition to guide us. This involves music, call & response, periods of silence, & a time of petition. We will end early enough for any choir folks who want to attend to be on time to choir. We will meet Wednesday, November 29, December 6, 13, and 20th.

Tuesday, December 5th: “Wandering Into Advent”



Join the congregations of Madison UMC for a Traveling Advent kick-off! Much like a progressive dinner, we will start at the Methodist Church at 5:45pm for supper, at 6:30pm journey to Piedmont Episcopal for worship, then come to our church at 7:15pm for dessert and an advent craft. This will be a wonderful way to both join hands as the Christian community in Madison and set our hearts toward Bethlehem.

All ages welcome! Please join us!

The Madison Choral Society
presents

Gloria

*"...of the seasons' fullness, to recapitulate all things
in Christ, both in heaven and on earth..."*
Ephesians 1:10

Featuring works by Vaughan Williams, Stanford,
Saint-Saëns, and more!

Ethan Wagner, Director



Friday, December 1, 2023 | Sunday, December 3, 2023

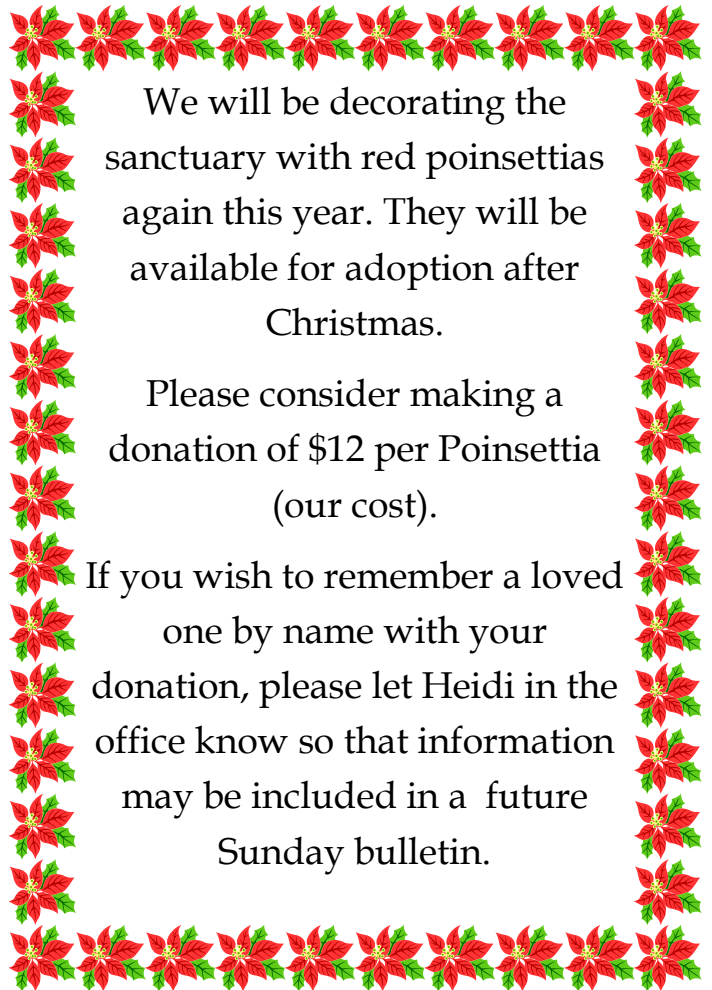
7:30 P.M.

St. Thomas
Episcopal Church
Orange, VA

4:30 P.M.

Mt. Carmel Church
Haywood, VA

Free Admission - Donations gratefully accepted



We will be decorating the sanctuary with red poinsettias again this year. They will be available for adoption after Christmas.

Please consider making a donation of \$12 per Poinsettia (our cost).

If you wish to remember a loved one by name with your donation, please let Heidi in the office know so that information may be included in a future Sunday bulletin.



SANIA'S WORKSHOP

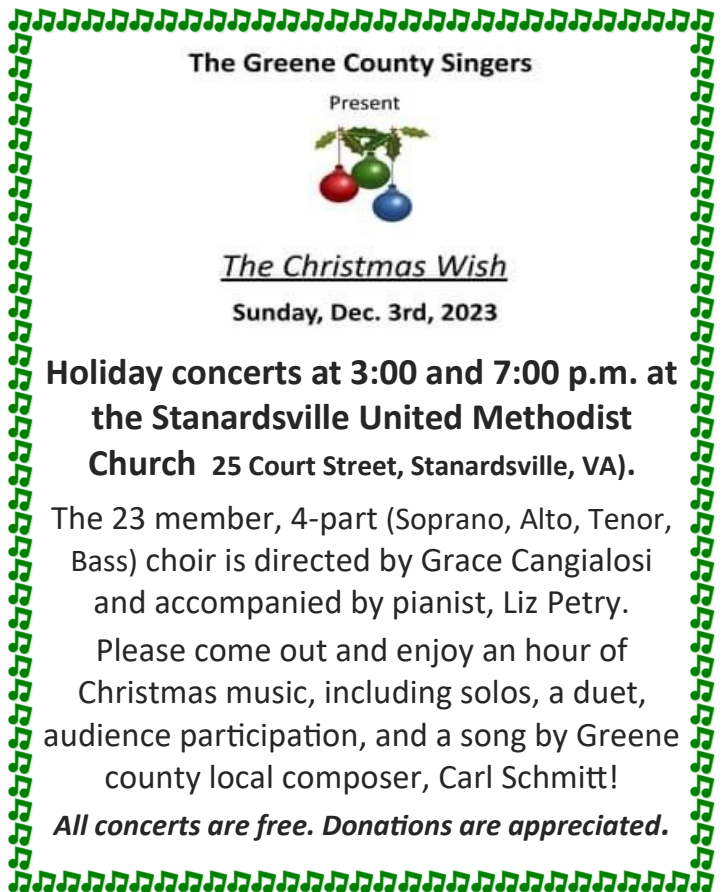
Saturday, December 9th
from 1 - 4 PM

Easy crafts to make and take for children of all ages.

Hot Chocolate & Cookies and a visit from SANIA!



If you would like to help out - Contact Kim Barnes: Lyonhart38@aol.com (434)962-0916



The Greene County Singers

Present



The Christmas Wish

Sunday, Dec. 3rd, 2023

Holiday concerts at 3:00 and 7:00 p.m. at the Stanardsville United Methodist Church 25 Court Street, Stanardsville, VA).

The 23 member, 4-part (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) choir is directed by Grace Cangialosi and accompanied by pianist, Liz Petry.

Please come out and enjoy an hour of Christmas music, including solos, a duet, audience participation, and a song by Greene county local composer, Carl Schmitt!

All concerts are free. Donations are appreciated.



Breakfast Buzzzzzzzzzz



On November 17 the Christian Education team welcomed Mary Margaret Tourond and Mike Wilson, who presented:

We're Still Here



Mary and Mike presented a very insightful, historical, and sometimes fun, program from a Lakota and Pamunkey view point. A reflection on their life journey, from white privilege to learning and honoring their heritage. Noting topics of population pre-contact, doctrine of discovery, eugenics and impact on Virginia Indians, and current lives in support of Native issues.



Mary Margaret is of the Lakota Nation and Mike is of the Pamunkey Nation.



There was so much to learn about our neighbors!

Suggested Reading:

- ◆ "Nation to Nation: Treaties between the US and American Indian Nations" edited by Suzan Shown Harjo, 2014
- ◆ "Indian Givers" by Jack Weatherford, 1988
- ◆ "Monacans and Miners" by Samuel Cook, 2000
- ◆ "An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States" by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz
- ◆ "All the Real Indians Died Off" by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz and Dina Gilio-Whitaker
- ◆ "In the Courts of the Conqueror: the 10 worst Indian Law Cases Ever Decided" by Walter R. Echo-Hawk
- ◆ "The Virginia Indian Heritage Trail" edited by Karenne Wood



Thank you to everyone who came and celebrated Thanksgiving on Sunday, November 19. Much gratitude to Joan Corbin and the Fellowship Team for providing the delicious turkey and hosting this lovely event. Thank you to all who brought side dishes and desserts for everyone to enjoy!

Our church family is truly blessed!

Thank you Mary King for the pictures!



Dawn Redwoods



The Dawn Redwoods are an endangered species, yet ours are thriving, as is appropriate for an Earth Care Congregation. Unlike their California relatives, the Sequoia Redwoods, the Dawn Redwoods are not evergreen. Instead they turn a beautiful shade of copper in the fall before dropping their needles.

They were known in fossil records from the time of the dinosaurs, but thought to be extinct until a grove was discovered in 1946 in a valley in western China. Now they are available in many countries and are making a come back in America. As you can see from our trees, they can grow over 100 feet tall, and they may live one hundred years.

Grounds Team

Earth Care Pledge

Peace and justice is God's plan for all creation. The earth and all creation are God's. God calls us to be careful, humble stewards of this earth, and to protect and restore it for its own sake, and for the future use and enjoyment of the human family. As God offers all people the special gift of peace through Jesus Christ, and through Christ reconciles all to God, we are called to deal justly with one another and the earth.

1. Our **worship** and discipleship will celebrate God's grace and glory in creation and declare that God calls us to cherish, protect and restore this earth.

2. In **education**, we will seek learning and teaching opportunities to know and understand the threats to God's creation and the damage already inflicted. We will encourage and support each other in finding ways of keeping and healing the creation in response to God's call to earth-keeping, justice and community.

3. Our **facilities** will be managed, maintained and upgraded in a manner that respects and cherishes all creation, human and non-human, while meeting equitably the needs of all people. In our buildings and on our grounds we will use energy efficiently, conserve resources, and share what we have in abundance so that God's holy creation will be sustainable for all life and future generations.

4. Our **outreach** will encourage public policy and community involvement that protects and restores the vulnerable and degraded earth as well as oppressed and neglected people. We will be mindful that our personal and collective actions can positively or negatively affect our neighborhood, region, nation and world. We will seek to achieve environmental justice through coalitions and ecumenical partnerships.



Attention Women of the Church!

Join the Presbyterian Women for the 2023-2024 bible study, which meet on the second Wednesday of the month at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall. The bible study this year is titled Sacred Encounters - The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke - Acts. The study books are on the table outside the church office in the Fellowship Hall. Please pick up your book and either check your name off of the list or add your name to the list. This lets us know who to contact in case of any day or time changes. All are welcome, whether or not you have participated before!! Any questions contact Sharon Weakley.



Thank you!!

STEWARDSHIP

Please remember to send in your pledge cards for the 2024 fiscal year. Pledge cards allow the Finance Committee to estimate the budget for the coming year.

Thank you for your contribution!

NAME(S) _____ NO. _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Financial Stewardship Commitment for 20_____

Grateful for God's love in Jesus Christ, I (we) make the following commitment to support the mission of the church through our congregation.

\$ _____ per week month other _____

(This commitment may be increased or decreased due to changing circumstances)

I (we) wish to receive information about giving through Estate Planning

Keep this portion as a record of your financial stewardship commitment for the year 20_____.

My (our) financial stewardship commitment

\$ _____

per week month other _____

(This commitment may be increased or decreased due to changing circumstances)

But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. (Eph. 4:7)

Amount of quarterly gift: \$ _____ 14 = \$ _____

	20,000	30,000	35,000	40,000	45,000	50,000	55,000	60,000
	15,000	43.00	29.00	20.00	17.00	14.00	12.00	9.00

Counters December 2023 - February 2024

December

Joyce Humphrey

Nick Humphrey

January

Elizabeth Anne Storey

Nancy Preston

February

Sue Strahan

Sam Strahan

The Card Group makes greeting cards for nursing home residents and church members that are home bound, and for other occasions. They meet Fridays, December 1 and 8th in the Fellowship Hall at 10am. All are welcome to join!

The Brown Bag Book Study will be starting back after the new year. The group meets the 1st (1/3) and 3rd (1/17) Wednesdays at 11AM. If you have any questions, please contact Bobbie Carroll at 540-948-9922.

Choir Practice meets every Wednesday at 7:00pm in the Choir Room.

Breakfast Buzz will be meeting again in the new year on the third Friday, January 19th.

Presbyterian Women meet the 2nd Wednesday each month at 10am in the Fellowship Hall.

Bible Study will break for the holidays through New Year.

Art Pearson

John Quinley

Frank King

Bill Pattie

Jean Pearson

**December
Communion
Servers and
Pew Guides**



On Communion Sundays,
the first Sunday of each month,
**the outside ring is Wine,
the inside is Juice.**

December Liturgists and Greeters

December 3	George Carroll	Corrine & Harvey Stanley
December 10	Frank King	Jane & Logan Lamar
December 17	Choir	John & Jill Quinley
December 24	Bill Pattie	Charles & Sharon Carter
December 31	Jean Pearson	Ruth Miles



Social Services Needs for Families for December

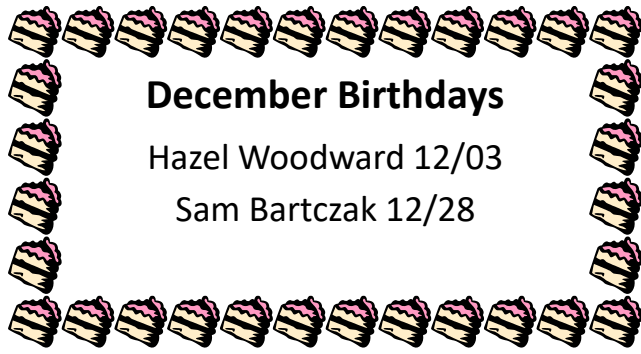
Needs of the Month:

Toiletries & Cleaning Supplies

Dish soap, laundry detergent, paper towels, toilet paper, cleanser, deodorant, bath soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, or feminine hygiene products

**Please place your donations in the red container in the Fellowship Hall.
Items will be taken to Madison Social Services to help neighbors in need.**





December Birthdays

Hazel Woodward 12/03

Sam Bartczak 12/28



December Anniversaries

John & Berta Storey 12/10

Pattie & Lee Rees 12/18

Matthew & Valerie McLearn 12/28



The Salvation Army Mission Statement

The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.

Checks should be made out to: **Madison Chapter Salvation Army.**

Piedmont Corp:

133-137 East Culpeper St, Culpeper, VA 22701

(540) 321-4859

Contact: virginiapiedmont.salvationarmypotomac.org/

Website: virginiapiedmont.salvationarmypotomac.org/

Church Thrift Store: 571 James Madison Hwy, Ste B, Culpeper, VA 22701

Charlottesville Corps:

207 Ridge Street

Charlottesville, VA 22902

Website: charlottesville.salvationarmypotomac.org



Madison Presbyterian Church

1236 Fishback Road

Madison, VA 22727

540.948.6972

www.madisonpresbyterian.com

Pastor: Karen Allamon Church

pastorkaren@madisonpresbyterian.com

Administrator: Heidi Piper

office@madisonpresbyterian.com

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 8:00 – 1:00

Advent and Christmas Schedule

Wednesday, November 29

Praying for Peace 6:15 - 6:45
Sanctuary

Thursday, November 30

Book Study: Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes
10:00am Fellowship Hall and 6:00 pm Tack Room

Sunday, December 3, 2023

First Sunday of Advent: Hope
Communion Sanctuary 10:00AM

Tuesday, December 5, 2023

The Third Annual Wandering into Advent

5:45 p.m. Madison United Methodist - Supper
505 South Main Street

6:30p.m. Piedmont Episcopal - Worship
214 Church Street

7:15 p.m. Madison Presbyterian - Dessert & Crafts
1236 Fishback Road

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

Praying for Peace 6:15 - 6:45
Sanctuary

Thursday, December 7

Book Study: Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes
10:00am Fellowship Hall and 6:00 pm Tack Room

Sunday, December 10, 2003

The Second Sunday of Advent: Peace
Reception of New Members

Wednesday, December 13

Praying for Peace 6:15 - 6:45
Sanctuary

Thursday, December 14

Book Study: Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes
10:00am Fellowship Hall and 6:00 pm Tack Room

Sunday, December 17, 2003

The Third Sunday of Advent: Joy
Choir Cantata Sanctuary 10:00 am

Wednesday, December 20, 2023

Praying for Peace 6:15 - 6:45 Sanctuary

Thursday, December 21

Book Study: Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes
10:00am Fellowship Hall and 6:00 pm Tack Room

Sunday, December 24: Christmas Eve

10:00am The Fourth Sunday of Advent: Love
5:00 Christmas Eve Communion and Candles



Sunday, December 31

10:00 The First Sunday After Christmas
New Year's Eve

Sunday, January 7, 2004

10:00am The Celebration of Epiphany
The Magi Greet the Baby
Communion



DECEMBER 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
November 26	27	28	29	30	1	2
			Praying for Peace 6:15pm Choir 7pm	Christmas Book Study 10am & 6pm	Card Group 10am	
3 Communion 1st Sunday of Advent Worship 10am AA 5:30pm	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Wandering into Advent 5:45pm - 8pm	Praying for Peace 6:15pm Choir 7pm	Christmas Book Study 10am & 6pm	Card Group 10am	Santa's Workshop 1-4pm
10 2nd Sunday of Advent Worship 10am AA 5:30pm	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Quilt Guild 6:30pm	Session 6:30pm	Pres Women 10:00am Praying for Peace 6:15pm Choir 7pm	Christmas Book Study 10am & 6pm		
17 3rd Sunday of Advent Choir Cantata 10am AA 5:30pm	18	19	20	21	22	23
			Woman's Club 11am Praying for Peace 6:15pm Choir 7pm	Christmas Book Study 10am & 6pm		
24 Christmas Eve Worship 10am Communion & Candles 5pm AA 5:30pm	25 Office Closed Christmas Day	26	27	28	29	30
	<i>With Us a Child is Born</i>	~~~~~	Choir 7pm	<i>Pastor Karen OFF</i>		
31 New Year's Eve 1st Sunday after Christmas Worship 10am AA 5:30pm	New Year's Day Office Closed	1	2	3	4	5
	<i>Happy New Year 2024</i>		Choir 7pm			6

First Sunday of Advent - December 3 - Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37

Second Sunday of Advent -December 10 - Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8

Third Sunday of Advent - December 17 - Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126 or Luke 1:46b-55; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

Fourth Sunday of Advent - December 24 - 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16; Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38

Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Eve) - December 24 - Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Dawn) - December 25 - Isaiah 62:6-12; Psalm 97; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:[1-7] 8-20

Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Day) - December 25 - Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98; Hebrews 1:1-4 [5-12]; John 1:1-14

First Sunday of Christmas - December 31 - Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 148; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40